

NATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR RADIATION READINESS (NARR): PREPARING FOR A RADIATION REGISTRY

**Jennifer C. Beggs, MPH
CSTE Representative Serving the NARR Executive Board
Emergency Preparedness Epidemiologist
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
March 13, 2019**



“Radiation, unlike smoking, drinking, and overeating, gives no pleasure, so the possible victims object...”

-ISAAC ASIMOV



OUTLINE

- NARR mission
- NARR participants
- NARR role during an incident
- NARR available tools



WHERE TO FIND RESOURCES FOR RADIATION EMERGENCIES...



National Alliance *for*
Radiation Readiness

www.radiationready.org

NARR MISSION STATEMENT

- The National Alliance for Radiation Readiness (NARR) is a coalition of public health, healthcare, and emergency management organizations.
- These organizations represent practitioners in the field of radiation readiness including state and local public health practitioners; elected officials at the state and local level; and first responder and first receiver groups.
- Representatives of federal agencies participate as liaison members.
- NARR serves as the collective “voice of health” in radiological preparedness through:
 - Participation in national dialogues on radiological emergency issues
 - Provision of feedback on documents, policies, and guidelines
 - Convening of partners to raise awareness of and resolve radiological emergency issues
- Administered by the ASTHO through a cooperative agreement with the CDC , National Center for Environmental Health, Radiation Studies Branch
 - 18 Member Agencies
 - 9 Federal Partners

NARR MEMBERSHIP

- American Association of Poison Control Centers (AAPCC)
- American Hospital Association (AHA)
- American Medical Association (AMA)
- American Public Health Association (APHA)
- Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL)
- Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH)
- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)
- Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD)
- Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE)
- Health Physics Society (HPS)
- International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM)
- National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)
- National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO)
- National Disaster Life Support Foundation (NDSLIF)
- National Emergency Management Association (NEMA)
- National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
- Radiation Injury Treatment Network (RITN)
- Society for Disaster Medicine and Public Health (SDMPH)



CDC
NRCFEMA
DHS AAPCC
APHANPHICFBI
RITNASTHO
USDA NACCHO CSTE
APHL ASPR/HHSHPS
AMA IAEMCRCPDNEMA
ASPHSDMPHEPA
NDSLFAHA
DOE

PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE TO INCIDENT

- **Assess medical effects of radiological exposure to community and workers**
- **Monitor people for contamination and exposure to radiation**
- **Protect people from radioactive fallout**
- **Protect people from radioactive contamination in the area**
- **Safely use food and water supplies from the area**
- **Assess and communicate dangers in the incident area**
- **Provide technical assistance and consultation**
- **Laboratory services**

NARR'S FUNCTION FOR REGISTRY DEVELOPMENT

- NARR will seek to address the problems of limited visibility for radiation preparedness, confusion about roles and responsibilities among partners, and provide robust tools for practitioners in the field.
- To address these problems, NARR will build radiological emergency preparedness, response and recovery capacity and capabilities by promoting the:
 - Connection of partners to develop best practices
 - Conference calls, webinars, documents etc.
 - Development of mechanisms for sharing resources and tools, including technical methods and information
 - Identification of best and promising practices
 - Definition of and education on the roles and responsibilities of different levels of government and different governmental agencies in preparing for and responding to the radiological emergency
 - Advancement of national performance measures and guidelines
 - Building and sustainment of long-term competencies

ADDRESSING REGISTRY CHALLENGES

- Operational registries are needed as soon as CRCs are opened
 - One registry should be used in all jurisdictions for easy merging and comparison
 - HIPAA protected information, if asked, must be secured
- Staff will need just-in-time training for registry use
- Consider supplementing staff to address data entry backlog
- Educate potential registrants who do not want to provide information to increase participation
- Develop protocol to transfer data to registry “owner” on a routine basis
- Decide how to use data and when data will be utilized
- Obtain IRB
 - Consider use of advance IRB approval (obtained pre-event) or emergency use IRB





The NARR Clearinghouse is a forum for sharing and evaluating practices, resources, and tools related to radiological response.

Featured

[Prioritization of Laboratory Samples following a Radiological Event: Considerations](#)

After a radiological event, many questions may need to be answered to help health officials mitigate a public health crisis, such as: Where did the fallout spread? Did it impact crops, livestock, or water supplies? Who was exposed, to what, and how much? ...

[Fukushima Nuclear Reactor Radiation Crisis: A National Review of the U.S. Domestic Public Health and Medical Response](#)

In mid-November 2011, the National Alliance for Radiation Readiness (NARR) led a review of the U.S. public health and medical response to domestic concerns arising from the 2011 incident at the Japanese Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant. Highlights of the group's discussions included the following key observations ...

[Partnership Strategies for State Radiation Control and Public Health Preparedness Programs](#)

Partnerships between radiation control programs and public health preparedness programs can increase the overall preparedness of a state. ...

News

[NARR Featured in El Paso Public Health Preparedness Newsletter](#)
October 2015

[Radiation in Laboratory Settings](#)
October 2015

[The National Library of Medicine Radiation Emergency Medical Management \(REMM\) site has been redesigned](#)
October 2015

[Exercise Documentation »](#)[Federal Guidance »](#)[Planning Templates »](#)[State and Local Response Plans »](#)[Webinars and Training »](#)[View all tools »](#)[Upcoming Events](#)

No event found

[View all events »](#)[Most Viewed](#)

[Improvised Nuclear Device Response and Recovery: Communicating in the Aftermath](#)

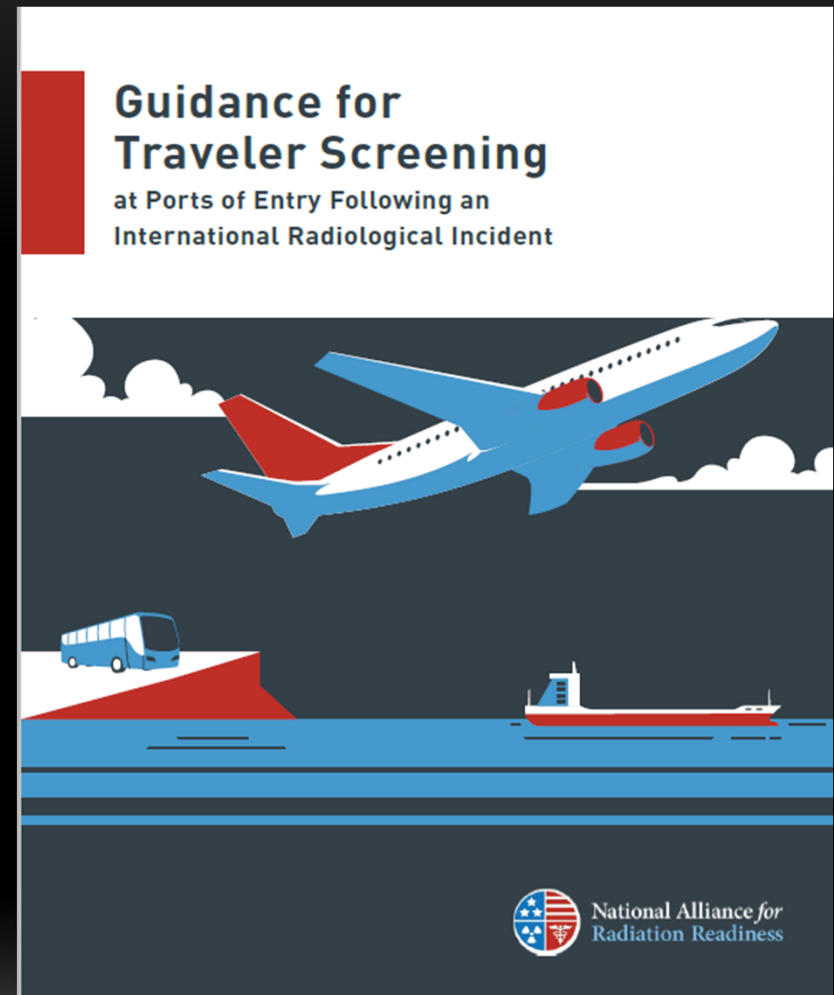
[Medical Interventions after Radiation Exposure](#)

NARR CLEARINGHOUSE

- Forum for sharing resources, tools, and best practices related to radiation planning, response, and recovery
 - Community Reception Center Electronic Data Collection Tool (CDC eTool)
 - The Community Reception Center Electronic Data Collection Tool (CRC eTool) is designed to collect, analyze, visualize, and securely exchange population monitoring data, including demographics, radiation contamination measurements, radiation exposure assessment, and health outcomes. It is created using the [Epi Info 7](#) platform and can be implemented using a local area network to include laptops, tablets, and cell phones. Data analysis, visualization, and transfer and exchange processes are also much more efficient once the data are collected electronically.
 - Traveler Screening Guidance

RELEASE DATE: MAY 15, 2018

- Guidance document to address screening and decontaminating travelers (if necessary) during a radiological contamination release in another country.
- All Ports of Entry into the U.S.
- For state, local, and tribal public health professionals as part of their existing jurisdictional emergency operations plans and procedures during traveler screening activities
- Provide information that is intended to bolster, not replace existing plans



CONCLUSIONS

- Collaborate with local health departments
- Review tools that are available to monitor health
- Assign POC from NARR during the event to stay current and distribute latest released guidelines
- Be flexible because response may be erratic and unpredictable as situation develops



QUESTIONS?

Jennifer C. Beggs, MPH

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Bureau of Epidemiology and Population Health
(BEPH)

beggsj@michigan.gov

(517) 284-4942